#### Surah 37 Surah Saaffaat

#### THOSE WHO STAND IN ROWS

#### THE LINK BETWEEN SURAH SAAFFAAT AND THE PRECEDING SURAHS

**By Name:** Surah Saba warns that those people who believe that their gods will assist them against Allaah's decree, will suffer the plight of the people of Saba. Surah Saaffaat explains that the Saaffaat (those angels who stand in rows before Allaah) also make the announcement that none is worthy of worship but Allaah.

By Content: After Surah Yaaseen, Surah Saaffaat is also linked to Surah Saba, while it is also linked to Surah Yaaseen by way of negating intercession that can alter Allaah's decision. Surah Yaaseen emphasised that the expectations of salvation that the Mushrikeen pinned in their gods were shattered when Allaah's punishment seized them. Their gods were totally helpless against Allaah.

Surah Saaffaat goes on to say that all those whom the Kuffaar deem to be effective against Allaah's decree like the angels, the jinn and the Ambiyaa submit in humility before Allaah. They even admit to their helplessness against Allaah's plan. Therefore, it is impossible to believe that they can be of any help to man.

#### A SUMMARY OF THE SURAH

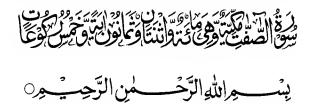
The first five verses inform us that the angels are all subservient to Allaah, and they announce to the inhabitants of the earth that their Rabb is the One Allaah. There can be no other deity, nor any being that can alter Allaah's decrees.

Thereafter, verses 6 to 10 explains how the Shayaateen are driven with fiery stars from the heavens when they attempt to eavesdrop on the discussions of the angels. They then suffer a grievous punishment. Since they cannot even get close enough to hear what is being discussed in the heavens, how can they have the ability to reverse Allaah's decision?

The first narrative concerning Nooh with is related from verse 75, and terminates at the end of verse 82. Thereafter, the narrative of Ibraheem with is recounted, beginning from verse 83 and continuing until the end of verse 113. Allaah describes how He rescued Ibraheem from the raging fire and how Ibraheem was so obedient to Allaah that he was prepared to sacrifice his son upon Allaah's command. These incidents prove that even great personalities like Nooh with and Ibraheem with cannot be deities and cannot alter Allaah's decree.

The narrative of Moosa which and Haaroon which is also mentioned, making it clear that Allaah had rescued them both from hardships and oppression. Verses 123 to verse 132 concern Ilyaas which, whom Allaah saved from assassination and humiliation at the hands of his people. The narrative of Loot which begins from verse 133 and ends with verse 138. Allaah rescued Loot which as well. It is again proven that people as great as Ilyaas which and Loot were in need of Allaah's assistance, and can therefore not alter Allaah's decisions.

Yunus will sincident follows thereafter. From verse 139 to verse 148, Allaah mentions how Yunus called to Him for assistance, after which Allaah rescued him. Therefore, even he cannot be regarded as an intercessor to change Allaah's decision.



In the name of Allaah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful



1. By the oath of those angels who stand in rows (engaged in Ibaadah or awaiting instructions from Allaah)!

2. And by those angels who (sharply) drive (the clouds to their destinations)!

3. And by those angels who recite the 'Reminder' (the Qur'aan)!

4. Without doubt, your llaah is One.

5. He is the Rabb of the heavens, the earth, whatever is between the two and He is the Rabb of the points of the sun's rising (the various points on the eastern horizon from which the sun rises during the different seasons).

6. Verily, We decorated (beatified) the sky of this world with the adornment (decoration) of the stars...

7. ...as a protection from every rebellious Shaytaan.

# ڵۯؽٮۜۜمَّعُوْنَ إِلَى الْمَلَاِ الْرَعْلِي وَيْقَذَوْنَ مِنْ كُلِّ جَانِبٍ<sup>ا</sup>

**8.** They (the Shayaateen) cannot eavesdrop on (listen secretly to) those (angels) of the upper (higher levels of Jannah) heights (who discuss matters of the future) and (when they try to eavesdrop, they) are pelted (with the stars) from every direction.

9. (They are) Repelled (by these stars) and shall have eternal punishment (in the Aakhirah).

### اِلَّامِنْ خَطِفَ الْخَطْفَةَ فَاتَبْعَهُ شِهَاكِ ثَافِعِ ٥٠

10. (None of them can hear anything) Except for the one who snatches (manages to overhear) something and (it is not long before) a flaming (piercing) spark (star) pursues him (and destroys him). (However, some of them manage to quickly pass on the information to other Shayaateen before dying and pass the incorrect information mixed with his goes on to the fortune tellers on earth.)

# ڡؘٲڛؾڣ۫ؾڡؚۣ؞ٝڔٲۿؙ؞ؙۯۺؘڎٛڂؘڷڟٵؙ؞ۯڝۧڹڂڷڨڹٵٝؾٵڂؘڷڡ۫ۿؠۻۨڟؚؽڹٟڷڒڔؚ؞

11. (If the Kuffaar claim that We cannot resurrect people on the Day of Qiyaamah,) Ask them whether their creating them was more difficult than the other things We created. (When We were able to create great creations, bringing man back will be extremely simple). Verily, We created them (their forefather Aadam from sticky clay (which is a weak, pliable substance compared to what Allaah used to create His other creation).

**12. You are surprised** (troubled) **as they** (the Kuffaar) **mock** (Islaam and the Qur'aan when they have no cause to do so).

13. When they are given advice (reminders), they do not take heed (do not listen).

#### وَإِذَارَاوَاايَةً يَّسْتَسْخِرُونَ<sup>®</sup>

14. When they see a miracle (to prove the Prophethood of a Nabi), they begin to ridicule (mock).



15. They say, "This (miracle) is nothing but clear magic."

### ءَإِذَامِتُنَاوَلُنَّاثُرُابًا وَّعِظَامًاءَ إِنَّالُمَبْغُوْتُونَ ۞

16. (Mocking further, they say,) "Will we be resurrected (raised) after we have died and become dust and bones?"

17. "Or will this (resurrection) happen to our early forefathers (ancestors also)?"

18. Say, "Yes! And you will be disgraced (when you learn that you had been foolish to reject resurrection)."

19. There will be only a single shout (blast of the trumpet to announce the arrival of Qiyaamah), after which they will all instantly stand up (from their graves) to look (see what is happening).

20. They will say, "Alas! This is the Day of Reckoning (decision)."

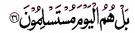
21. (They will be told,) "This is the Judgement (Decision) Day which you used to deny."

**22.** (The angels will then be commanded to) "Assemble (gather) the oppressors (the Kuffaar), their companions (friends) and whatever they worshipped..."

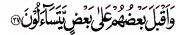
23. "...apart from Allaah, and lead them to the road of the Blaze (Jahannam)."

24. "(Before taking them away,) Stop them, for they will have to be questioned."

**25.** (They will be asked,) "What is the matter (wrong) with you that you do not help each other (whereas you promised each other that your gods will assist you and that you would assist each other)?"



**26.** On that day they will have submit (to the judgment because everything will be apparent before them and they will be unable to deny anything).



27. They will turn to each other asking questions.

28. They (the followers) will say (to their leaders), "You people used to come to us with great might (to persuade us to commit kufr)."

**29.** The leaders will reply, "But you people were never Mu'mineen (in the first place, so you cannot claim that we took you away from Islaam)."

**30.** "We never had any authority over you (and could therefore not compel you to remain as Kuffaar). However, you were a rebellious nation (exceeding the limits and would have remained Kuffaar even if we told you nothing)."

31. "(Nevertheless, it is too late to alter our fate because) The decision of our Rabb (that we are destined for Jahannam) has already been established (proved) against us. Undoubtedly, we shall all taste (the punishment for our sins)."



32. (The Kuffaar leaders will further tell their followers) "We misled you (only because you were prepared to

listen to us) **while we were ourselves misled** (not guided by our own choice. Therefore, neither you or we can blame anyone)."

33. Undoubtedly, they will all share in the punishment (misery) today.

34. Thus do We treat the criminals (the Kuffaar and sinners).

35. They were the ones who were (too) proud (to accept) when they were told, "There is none worthy of worship but Allaah."

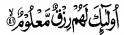
36. They used to say, "Should we leave our gods for an insane (possessed) poet?"

37. (They did not realise that) He (Rasulullaah ) brought the truth (Islaam) and he confirms the Ambiyaa (who had informed their people about his arrival).

**38.** (The Kuffaar will be told) "You will all definitely taste a grievous (painful) punishment (in Jahannam)."

**39.** "You will be punished only for the actions that you carried out (and not for anything you did not do)."

40. Of course, the situation of Allaah's selected bondsmen (the Mu'mineen) will be different.



41. For these people there will be a familiar provision...

**42**....of fruit (fruit that they will recognise but which will be far superior to the fruit of this world). They will be honourably treated...



43. ...in Jannaat of eternity...(bliss)

**44.** ...(where they will be) **sitting on thrones** (couches), **facing each other** (and holding friendly conversations).

**45.** They will be presented with goblets (cups) filled with flowing (pure) wine (unlike the impure wine of this world which intoxicates)...

46. ...(which will be) white and delicious (pleasurable) for the drinkers.

47. It (the wine) will neither produce headaches (nausea), nor will they be intoxicated by it.

48. With them (the people of Jannah), there will be wide-eyed damsels (women), whose gazes are ever lowered (out of modesty).

49. (Their skin tone will be so clear that it will appear) As if they are precious (delicate) eggs.

### فَأَقْبُلَ بَعْضُهُمُ عَلَى بَعْضِ تَيْتَسَاءَ لُوْنَ®

**50.** (Sitting there with each other) **They** (the people of Jannah) **will face each other, questioning each** other

**51.** One of them will say, "I had a certain companion (friend who did not believe in resurrection)..."

52. "...who used to say, 'Are you from those who confirm (that resurrection will take place)?"

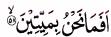
53. "(He used to say) 'Will we really be given the retribution (punishment for our actions) when we die and become sand and bones?'"

**54.** He (the person of Jannah) will ask (those with him), "Do you want to have a look (into Jahannam to see him there)?"

55. When he looks (into Jahannam), he will see him (his Kaafir companion) in the midst of Jahannam.

**56.** He (the Mu'min in Jannah) will say, "By Allaah! You almost destroyed me (had you managed to convince me)."

57. "If it were not for the bounty of my Rabb (who granted me Imaan), I would have certainly been from those brought forward (to be punished)."



**58.** (The people of Jannah will ask,) "Is it not so that we shall not die again (after entering Jannah)..."

59. "...except for our first death (which already took place in the world), and we will not be punished?"

60. "Undoubtedly, this is the greatest success."

61. "It is for (achieving) something like this (success) that those who wish to strive should strive (work)."

62. Is this (the bounties of Jannah) better hospitality or the tree of Zaqqoom?

**63.** We have certainly made it (Zaqqoom) a test (appointed) for the oppressors (the Kuffaar who mocked Rasulullaah by saying that a tree cannot grow in the fire of Jahannam).

64. It (Zaggoom) is a tree that emerges from the depths of Jahannam.

65. Its fruit resembles (are like) the heads of hideous snakes.

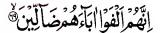
**66.** People will certainly eat from it and (although it will taste horrible, they will) fill their bellies with it (because of their intense hunger).

67. Thereafter (after eating from it) they will be given a mixture of boiling water with it (which

will be so hot that it will burn their entrails to shreds).



**68.** Thereafter (after eating and drinking) their return will definitely be towards the blazing fire (of Jahannam, where the punishment will resume).



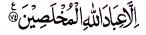
69. They (the Kuffaar) found their forefathers astray (misguided).

70. Then they rushed (ran to follow) in their footsteps.

71. (In fact,) Most of the earlier people (of old) before them were (also) astray (like them).

**72.** (However, We did not leave them to their own devices, but) **We certainly sent warners among them** (to warn them about the consequences of kufr).

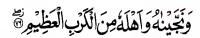
**73.** (However, they rejected the reminders and were soon destroyed by Allaah's punishment.) **So see the plight** (terrible end) **of those who were warned** (but who did not heed the warning).



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**74.** Of course, the situation of Allaah's chosen bondsmen (the Mu'mineen) is different (they accepted the message of the Ambiyaa and attained success in the Aakhirah).

75. Indeed Nooh (prayed) to Us (to save him from his people). (We accepted his du'aa and sent a flood to destroy them.) How excellently do We respond (answer to the one who pleads for help)?



**76.** We rescued him and his family from a great calamity (the flood, while all the Kuffaar were drowned).

77. We made his progeny (the Mu'mineen) the only survivors.

78. And, in his favour, We left (as praise and remembrance of him) among those to come after him...

**79...."Peace be to Nooh in the universe."** (He is therefore remembered with words like this by all Mu'mineen.)

80. Thus do We reward those who do good.

81. He (Nooh Walling) was certainly from Our slaves who were Mu'mineen.

82. Thereafter (after saving Nooh was and the Mu'mineen), We drowned the rest.

**84.** (Remember the time) **When he** (Ibraheem (Ibraheem came to his Rabb with a sound (pure) heart (that was free from Shirk and sin).

85. And (also remember the time) when he said to his people and his father, "What do you worship?"

**86.** "Do you desire (to worship) make-believe (false) Aaliha instead of Allaah (Who is Real and Powerful)?"

**87.** (He further asked the people,) **"What is your opinion about the Rabb of the universe?"** (Do you think that He will leave you to worship these idols without being punished?)

**88.** (Once, when the people of Ibraheem prepared to leave town for a celebration, they asked him to accompany them. In reply) **He glanced once at the stars** (as they normally did)...

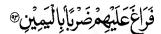


**89....and then said, "I feel unwell."** (Because they believed that the stars had an effect on people, they did not question his illness.)

90. So they turned their backs on him and left.

**91.** He hurried (turned quickly) to their gods (in the temple) and (seeing all the food that the people had left as offering, he) said (to the idols), "Do you not eat?"

92. "What is the matter with you that you do not speak?"



93. (With an axe in his hand,) He then turned to them, striking them with force (with the right hand

breaking all of them except the largest one whom he left untouched). (As mentioned in verses 59-61 of Surah 21, the people learnt that Ibraheem was responsible for the act.)

# فَاقْتَلُوۡ اللَّهِ يَزِفُّوۡنَ ®

94. The people came to him in haste (extremely upset to question him about the incident).

95. (Seizing the opportunity to make them understand the folly of worshipping idols,) He said, "Do you worship what you yourselves carve..."

**96.** "...whereas Allaah has created you and anything that you make?" (Why do you worship the creation instead of The Creator?)

97. (Unable to answer his questions,) They (eventually) said, "Construct a building for him and cast him into a blazing fire."

98. They devised a plot against him, but We made them the ones to look down (in humility when their planto kill him failed. See verses 68-70 of Surah 21).

99. (When his father and his people refused to accept his message of Towheed) He (Ibraheem said, "I am going to (a place where) my Rabb (has commanded me to go), (it is only Allaah) Who will soon guide me (to the blessed land of Shaam, where I am commanded to live)."

100. "O my Rabb! Grant me a son (righteous) from among the pious."

101. So We conveyed to him the good news of (the birth of) a an obedient son (Ismaa'eel

# فَلَمَّا بَلَغَمَعَهُ السَّعْىَ قَالَ يَبْنَىَّ اِثِنَّ اَرْبِي فِي الْمَنَامِ اَنِّيَ اَذْبِحُكَ فَانْظُرْمَاذَاتَرَٰى ۚ قَالَ يَابَتِ افْعَلْ مَاتُّؤُمَّنُ ا سَيِّجَدُ نِنَ اِنْ شَاءَاللَّهُ مِنَ الصِّبِرِيْنَ ۞

102. When the child (Ismaa'eel (I

103. So when the two submitted (to Allaah's command, they proceeded to carry out the sacrifice) and lbraheem (lay his son down and) turned his son on his side (to slaughter him, placing the knife on the youth's throat)...

104....We (stopped him from slaughtering his son and) called to him saying, "O Ibraheem!"

105. "You have certainly brought the dream to a realisation (fulfilled the command). In this manner (as We shall reward you) do We reward those who do good."

106. This (command to slaughter your son) is definitely a decisive test (of Imaan).

107. And We ransomed (saved) him (Ismaa'eel ) with a grand (mighty) sacrifice (a ram from Jannah, which Ibraheem ) then slaughtered in the place of Ismaa'eel ).

108. And, in his favour, We left (as praise and remembrance of him) among those to come after him...

### سَلَّمُ عَلَى إِبْرِهِيْمُ

109. ... "Peace be to Ibraheem \*\*\* ." (He is therefore remembered with words like this by all Mu'mineen.)

110. Thus do We reward those who do good.

111. He was certainly from Our slaves (servants) who were Mu'mineen.

112. We gave him the good news of (the birth of his son) Is'haaq (who was to be) a Nabi from the pious (righteous).

113. We blessed him (Ibraheem with) and Is'haaq with numerous favours such as Prophethood, knowledge and wisdom). From the progeny (children) of the two, there was the one who did good (the Mu'min), as well as the open oppressor of his soul (the Kaafir).

114. Undoubtedly We favoured Moosa 经影響 and Haaroon 经影響 (by making them Ambiyaa 经影響).

115. We rescued the two of them and their people from great distress (from the tyranny of Fir'oun).

**116.** We assisted them (against Fir'oun) and they became victorious (surviving after Fir'oun and his army had been drowned).

117. We gave the two of them a Book (the Torah) that clearly elucidated (explains) matters.

118. And We guided the two of them to the straight path.

119. And, in their favour, We left (as praise and remembrance of them) among those to come after (them)...

120. ... "Peace be to Moosa Will and Haaroon. Will" (They are therefore remembered with words like this by all Mu'mineen.)

121. Thus do We reward those who do good.

122. They were certainly from Our slaves who were Mu'mineen (believing servants).

123. Indeed Ilyaas was from the Ambiyaa. (Ilyaas preached to the people of B'albak, a town in Shaam.)

**124.** (Remember the time) When he said to his people, "Do you not fear (Allaah's punishment for worshipping others besides Him)?"

125. "Do you worship (your idol named) Ba'al and leave out the Best of all creators (Allaah)?"

126. "Allaah is your Rabb and the Rabb of your predecessors (so worship only Him)."

127. They rejected him, so they will certainly be brought forward (identified for punishment).

**128.** Of course, the situation of Allaah's chosen bondsmen (Mu'mineen) will be different (for they will enjoy pleasures in Jannah and not suffer punishment).

129. And, in his favour, We left (as praise and remembrance of him) among those to come after (him)...

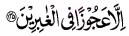
130. ... "Peace be to llyaaseen (Ilyaas (Ilyaas)." (He is therefore remembered with words like this by all Mu'mineen.)

131. Thus do We reward those who do good.

132. He was certainly from Our slaves (servants) who were Mu'mineen.

133. Indeed Loot William was from the Ambiyaa.

**134.** (Remember the time) When We rescued (delivered) him and all the members of his family (from punishment)...



135. ... except an old lady (his wife who was) among those left behind (to suffer the punishment).

136. Thereafter (after rescuing the Mu'mineen), We destroyed the rest.

137. You (people of Makkah) pass by them (see the ruins of their cities as you travel) in the mornings...



~ (Y) ~

138. ...and at nights (en route to Shaam for trade). Do you not understand (that your fate will be the same for rejecting the message of Rasulullaah ??)?

139. Yunus was certainly from the Ambiyaa.

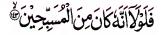
**140.** (Remember the time) **When** (after losing hope that his people will accept Imaan) **he left** (the town without Allaah's command and headed) **for the laden ship.** 

#### فَسَاهَمَ فَكَانَ مِنَ الْمُدْحَضِيْنَ الْمُ

141. (However, when the ship set sail, it was caught in stormy weather and was close to sinking. The people on board attributed this misfortune to the fact that an escaped slave was on board. It was decided that the person should be thrown overboard to save the ship. However, to decide who the person was,) They drew lots and (each time) he (Yunus was of the losers. (Consequently, he was cast overboard.)

#### فَالْتَقَمَّهُ الْحُوتُ وَهُومُلِيْمُ

142. Then (when he fell into the ocean) a (large) fish (whale) swallowed him (whole) for he was accountable (for leaving the town without waiting for Allaah's command).



143. If he were not from those who glorify Allaah...

## لَلبِثَ فِي بَطْنِهَ إِلى يَوْمِرُينَعَتُونَ اللهِ

بن في

144....he would have remained inside the fish until the day people are resurrected.

145. (However, We rescued him from the fish and) We cast him on a barren (forsaken) shore, and he was ill (after spending a long time in the fish).

146. We then caused a creeper to grow over him (to shade him as he regained his strength).

147. Then We sent him (to preach) to a nation of a hundred thousand or more.

148. (After Yunus (the people of his town) accepted Imaan and We allowed them to enjoy themselves (to live) for a while (rather than suffer the punishment as Yunus (had wished).

149. Ask them (the Mushrikeen), "Should your Rabb have daughters (as you claim He has), while you (love to) have sons?"

150. "Or have (they developed the belief that the angels are Allaah's daughters because they believe that) We created the angels as females in their presence?"

151. Behold! Because of their fabricated beliefs, they will certainly say...

152. ... "Allaah has children." Undoubtedly, they are liars!

153. Has Allaah chosen daughters instead of sons?

**154.** What is the matter with you people? How do you decide? (Whereas these Mushrikeen loved sons more than daughters, it is deemed offensive that they should attribute to Allaah what they dislike for themselves.)



155. Do you not take heed (think)?

**156.** Or have you some clear proof (authority for your beliefs, which compel you cling to them so adamantly)?

157. So bring your Book (containing the proof) if you are truthful.

158. They (the Mushrikeen) have made a kinship (family relationship) between Allaah and the Jinn. The Jinn already know that (if they commit Shirk,) they will be among those brought forward (for punishment).

159. Allaah is Pure of all (the partners) they ascribe.

160. Of course, the condition of Allaah's sincere bondsmen is different (they do not hold

these fallacious beliefs but worship Allaah only).

161. Surely you (Mushrikeen) and whatever (gods) you worship...

162....cannot turn (anyone) away from Allaah...

**163.** ... **except for him who is** (destined) **to enter the Blaze** (he will turn away from Allaah regardless of the efforts of the Mushrikeen).

**164.** The position of each of us (angels in the heavens) is known. (It is in these fixed positions that the angels engage in Ibaadah all the time.)

165. Indeed, we are standing in rows (worshipping Allaah).

166. Indeed, we are glorifying Allaah (all the time).

167. It is a fact that these people (the Mushrikeen of Makkah) say...

168. "If only we had some advice (a divine scripture) from the people of the past ..."

169. "...we would then surely have been Allaah's sincere (chosen) bondsmen (by practising

the injunctions of the scripture)."

170. (Their claim is obviously false because) **They disbelieve it** (the Qur'aan, which has come to them). **They will soon come to know** (the error of their ways when they face Allaah's punishment).

171. Our decree (word) has been issued concerning those of Our slaves who have been sent (as Ambivaa Ambivaa (Ambivaa (Ambivaa (Market))).

172. Verily, they will be assisted (aided against their enemies).

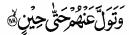
**173.** And surely Our army (the Mu'mineen) shall (ultimately) be victorious (triumphant against the Kuffaar).

174. So ignore them (the Mushrikeen) for a while (and do not bother with their insults and taunts).

175. Keep watching (until punishment overtakes) them, for they shall soon see (the punishment for themselves).

176. Do they seek to hasten Our punishment?

177. So when it (the punishment) descends on their plain (comes to their land), then the morning of those who were warned (about Our punishment) will be evil indeed (because they will all be destroyed in the punishment).



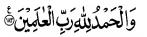
178. Ignore them (the harassment of the Kuffaar) for a while (until the command of Jihaad is given).

 $\textbf{179. Keep watching} \textit{ (for Our punishment), for they shall soon see \textit{(it for themselves).}}$ 

180. Your Rabb, the Rabb of all honour is Pure (free) from what (partners and children) they attribute to Him.



181. Peace be upon the Ambiyaa.



182. And all praise belongs to Allaah, the Rabb of the universe.